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FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK008

TO PETER RODMAN FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA 86970 WH40373

TOHAK008

JANUARY 7, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: EVENING NOTES

PRESS REPORTS ON THE MIDDLE EAST: PRESS HAS REPORTED THE FOLLOWING TODAY:

- ISRAELI NEWSPAPER HA'ARETZ SAYS INDIRECT TROOP WITHDRAWAL TALKS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA MAY BEGIN IN A FEW DAYS -- THE U.S. IS TO ACT AS A MIDDLEMAN. ISRAEL SUPPOSEDLY ACCEPTED A COMPROMISE U.S. PROPOSAL THAT SYRIA WILL GIVE WASHINGTON A PRISONER LIST. GOI HAS DENIED REPORTS OF THE PLAN.
- PALESTINE GUERRILLAS SAID TWO DIVISIONS OF REBEL JORDANIAN ARMY TROOPS HAVE SURROUNDED KEY INSTALLATIONS OUTSIDE AMMAN TO PRESS DEMANDS -- PREMIER RIFAI DENIED THERE WAS AN INSURRECTION BUT HUSSEIN DECREED A 10 PERCENT PAY RAISE FOR THE TROOPS.
- EGYPT REPORTED THE START OF OPERATIONS TO CLEAR THE SUEZ AND PREDICTED IT WILL BE OPEN IN SIX MONTHS.
- AN AP ARTICLE BY FRED S. HOFFMAN QUOTES U.S. MILITARY SOURCES SAYING THAT SYRIA IS BUILDING THREE NEW MILITARY AIRFIELDS -- AT SHARAT, AS SUWEIDA, AND ABU AD DUBUR -- WITH CONCRETE AND STEEL SHELTERS TO PROTECT ITS PLANES.

***** *WHSR COMMENT*****

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THE WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS: OSWALD JOHNSTON WRITES THAT FOR 15 YEARS
THE MAJOR U.S. OIL FIRMS HAVE HAD DIRECT ACCESS TO ONE PRESIDENT
(KENNEDY), FOUR ATTORNEYS GENERAL, AND NUMEROUS JUSTICE AND STATE

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OFFICIALS -- INCLUDING WILLIAM P. ROGERS. THIS WAS BROUGHT OUT IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SFRC BY JOHN J. MCCLOY. THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO ABOLISH SEVEN ARMY HEADQUARTERS: USA ALASKA; USA PACIFIC; USA SOUTHERN COMMAND IN PANAMA; THEATER ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND IN WORMS, GERMANY; ENGINEER COMMAND IN FRANKFURT; ARMY AIR DEFENSE COMMAND IN COLORADO SPRINGS; AND USA INTELLIGENCE COMMAND AT FORT MEADE. STEPHEN AUG REPORTS THAT JOHN SWEARINGER, CHAIRMAN OF STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF INDIANA, EXPECTS A 15 PERCENT SHORTAGE OF REFINED PRODUCTS OVER THE NEXT 90 DAYS. THIS COULD MEAN A 30 PERCENT SHORTAGE IN GAS. JEREMIAH O'LEARY SAYS YOU HAVE TAKEN A NEW, SHARP TONE TOWARD THE ARAB'S OIL EMBARGO. HE QUOTES FROM YOUR REMARKS AT THE LUNCHEON YESTERDAY. HE SAYS THE EC NINE REACHED AN AGREEMENT THIS WEEK THAT IN EFFECT REBUTTED U.S. AIMS. A STAR-NEWS EDITORIAL ON CANADA'S OIL POLICY SAYS ENERGY MINISTER MACDONALD'S "TWO-MARKET POLICY" AND THE \$6.40 PER BARREL PRICE HAVE AN UNFRIENDLY MEANING TO THE U.S. AND COULD HAUNT AMERICAN-CANADIAN RELATIONS. CROSBY NOYES NOTES THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP IS RIGHT IN BELIEVING THAT ITS POLICY OF DETENTE IS IN TROUBLE. THE REASON, HE ASSERTS, IS THE GROWING DISILLUSION OF AMERICAN LIBERALS. NORWAY HAS FORMALLY PROTESTED TO ISRAEL A COUNTERTERRORIST SLAYING OF AN ARAB NATIONAL, ALLEGEDLY CARRIED OUT BY ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE LAST JULY. THREE JEWS WERE CONVICTED OF MURDER CONSPIRACY LAST FRIDAY.

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